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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 3, 2005

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STOCKTON MONEY REMITTER SENTENCED FOR STRUCTURING
Owner of Cambodia Wire Express Made Over 3/4 Million
Dollars of Illicit Deposits

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott and IRS Criminal Investigation Special Agent Roger L. Wirth announced today that RY PROK, age 33, of Stockton, California was sentenced to 30 months imprisonment by United States District Court Judge Morrison C. England in connection with her conviction for four counts of structuring cash deposits into Wells Fargo Bank. In addition to imposing a sentence of 30 months, Judge England further ordered that she be placed on supervised release for a period of three years.

The case is the product of an extensive investigation undertaken by the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation Division.

According to Special Agent in Charge Wirth, "Our financial reporting laws are in place to detect the movement of large amounts of currency. Knowingly breaking these laws in an attempt to obscure the money trail will not be tolerated by the government."

United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott stated, "Structuring financial transactions is a serious crime because it deprives the government of information it uses to track large cash financial transactions, including transactions that may involve the proceeds of crime and transactions intended to promote crime."

According to Assistant United States Attorneys S. Robert Tice-Raskin and Courtney J. Linn, who are prosecuting the case, under federal law financial institutions are generally required to prepare and submit Currency Transaction Reports (CTRs) to report large cash transactions, consisting of transactions involving over \$10,000 in currency or other monetary instruments, every time they occur at the bank. These CTR rules apply to the deposit, withdrawal, exchange of currency or other payment or transfer, by, through, or to such financial institutions, which involves a transaction in currency, bank checks, cashier's checks, money orders, and traveler's checks of more than \$10,000. It is a felony under federal law to structure or assist in structuring, or attempt to structure or assist in structuring any cash transaction with a domestic financial institution with the intent to evade the CTR reporting requirement. Federal law provides enhanced penalties for individuals who engage in structuring as part of a pattern of any illegal

activity involving more than \$100,000 in a 12-month period.

As part of her guilty plea, defendant PROK admitted that Cambodia Wire Express was an entity she controlled which engaged in the business of transmitting money from the United States abroad. As part of the business, defendant PROK maintained a bank account at Wells Fargo Bank located at 1045 W. March Lane, Stockton, CA. According to bank records, as well as the corroborative testimony of bank tellers, between January 7, 2003 and November 9, 2004 defendant PROK made multiple cash deposits each above \$9,500 but under \$10,000 at the Wells Fargo Bank branch, frequently on successive days, for an aggregate amount of \$829,186.

The defendant was interviewed by law enforcement on February 23, 2005. After advisement and waiver of her rights, she admitted that she was aware of the CTR requirement. Agents executed a search warrant at the residence/business location of defendant PROK (4303 Manchester Avenue, Apartment #57, Stockton, California) the same date. Among other things, agents seized documentation which explained the CTR Requirement.

As part of her plea, PROK expressly admitted that she structured deposits on four days, September 8, 2003, September 9, 2003, September 11, 2003, and September 15, 2003, each in an amount above \$9,500 and below \$10,000 for the purpose of evading the CTR requirement. Also as part of the plea, the defendant agreed to forfeit over \$49,000 in structured funds to the government.

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